

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 06288 01 OF 02 191150Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CG-00 L-03 IO-13 ACDA-07 COME-00
INT-05 TRSE-00 FEA-01 CEQ-01 NSF-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02
AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 DOTE-00 /100 W
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R 191139Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2779

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 06288

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TGEN, XV, UK
SUBJECT: ANTARCTIC TREATY: PREPARATIONS FOR CONSULTA-
TIVE MEETINGS: UK CONSULTATIONS WITH POLAND
AND USSR

REF: (A) STATE 76553; (B) LONDON 5916

1. WE MANAGED TO MEET BRIEFLY WITH JOHN HEAP. HEAD,
POLAR REGIONS SECTION, FCO, APRIL 18. HE WAS JUST ABOUT
TO LEAVE FOR WHAT HE CONSIDERS TO BE "CRITICAL" FAO
COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES (COFI) MEETING IN ROME. HE SAID
HE SPENT MUCH OF HIS LEAVE REVIEWING FAO COFI MEETING
DOCUMENTS, AND IT IS OBVIOUS TO HIM THAT MOST IMPORTANT
ITEM ON AGENDA IS THAT DEALING WITH ESTABLISHMENT OF SUB-
COMMITTEE ON FISHING ACTIVITIES IN THE SOUTHERN OCEANS.
AS THIS IS ONLY SUBSTANTIVE ITEM TO BE DEALT WITH, HE
DOUBTS THAT COMMITTEE CAN BE DEFERRED FROM ADOPTING
MOTION ESTABLISHING SUCH A SUBCOMMITTEE. HE LOOKS FOR-
WARD TO MEETING WITH TUCKER SCULLY AND TO LEARNING U.S.
VIEWS ON QUESTIONS RAISED IN HIS LETTER OF APRIL 5.

2. AS SUGGESTED BY HEAP'S STAFF IN PARA 3 REFTEL B,
HEAP FEELS THAT THERE WAS GENERAL, ALTHOUGH NOT UNANIMOUS,
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PAGE 02 LONDON 06288 01 OF 02 191150Z

AGREEMENT AT END OF MARCH PREPARATORY THAT JULY AD HOC
MEETING WOULD AT SOME POINT CONSTITUTE ITSELF AS A
SECOND PREPARATORY. MEETING SPACE HAS BEEN RESERVED WITH
THIS POSSIBILITY IN MIND. HEAP, HOWEVER, WOULD LIKE
SOMEONE TO FORMALLY RAISE THIS QUESTION AT NEXT MONTHLY
AS HE FEELS UK IS ALREADY TOO FAR "OUT IN FRONT" ON THIS
ISSUE.

ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER OR NOT DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE US TO RAISE THIS ISSUE AT APRIL 28 MONTHLY PREPARATORY MEETING.

3. POLISH CONSULTATIVE STATUS: HEAP CONFIRMED EARLIER STATEMENT BY HIS OFFICE THAT NO ONE HAS SUGGESTED ANY NEW PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR HANDLING OR RECOGNIZING POLAND'S REQUEST TO BECOME A CONSULTATIVE PARTY. WITH RESPECT TO LEGAL ADVISOR DAVID ANDERSON'S AMENDED PROPOSAL REPORTED PARA 4 REFTEL B, HEAP'S SUPERVISOR, SUPERINTENDING UNDERSECRETARY ROBIN EDMONDS, HAS DECIDED THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE CIRCULATED BEFORE THE MONTHLY ON APRIL 28. AT THAT MEETING IT SHOULD ONLY BE PUT FORWARD IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FROM THE FLOOR. AT SUCH A REQUEST UK REP SHOULD PREFACE TABLING OF DOCUMENT BY SAYING IT IS NOT OFFICIAL UKG PAPER BUT AN INFORMAL ATTEMPT TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THIS DIFFICULT SUBJECT. HEAP'S OFFICE WILL CONTACT FIRST USSR REP KOTLIAR AND IF HE DOESN'T BITE, THEN AUSTRALIAN REP CAWLEY IN ORDER TO STIMULATE REQUEST FROM FLOOR FOR SUCH A DOCUMENT.

4. USSR CONSULTATIONS: AS REPORTED REFTEL B, HEAP VISITED OSLO, WARSAW, MOSCOW AND LENINGRAD DURING PERIOD MARCH 23 - APRIL 2. UNFORTUNATELY, HE DID NOT HAVE TIME BEFORE LEAVING FOR ROME TO GIVE US FULL REPORT ON TOUR. HE HAS PROMISED, HOWEVER, TO PROVIDE US WITH HIS FULL TRIP REPORT AS SOON AS HE HAS A CHANCE TO REVIEW IT.

5. HEAP DESCRIBED WARSAW PORTION OF TRIP AS "EXCELLENT."
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PAGE 03 LONDON 06288 01 OF 02 191150Z

POLISH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) OFFICIALS WERE "NOT AT ALL UPSET" BY RESULTS OF JUNE PREPARATORY. THEY VERY MUCH "WANT TO BE IN THE CLUB" AND ARE WILLING TO PUT UP WITH DELAYS OUT OF "RESPECT FOR BRITISH TRADITIONS." HEAP SAID POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCE ANTARCTIC OFFICIALS ARE "BASICALLY POLITICALLY NAIVE" AND "PARTICULARLY NAIVE ABOUT THE ANTARCTIC." POLISH MFA LOOKS AT ACADEMY OF SCIENCE VIEW OF ANTARCTIC ISSUE WITH "WRY AMUSEMENT." THEY FEEL VERY STRONGLY THAT ACADEMY OF SCIENCE PEOPLE HAVE FEATURED COMMERCIAL ASPECTS OF THEIR ACTIVITIES IN ANTARCTICA MUCH TOO STRONGLY. THEY ASKED FOR AND RECEIVED HEAP'S SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO DESCRIBE POLISH EFFORTS IN MORE APPROPRIATE TERMS. AS A RESULT, HEAP EXPECTS THEM TO PRODUCE A "MUCH BETTER NOTE" IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HE SAID POLES HAVE REALLY CLIMBED ON THE BAND WAGON AND THAT HE IS CONVINCED POLAND WILL BE A "GOOD, SUBSTANTIVE MEMBER OF THE TREATY." HE SAID THAT WHILE THERE IS A DISTINCT EMPHASIS BEING PLACED ON KRILL AND OTHER FISHERIES EXPLOITATION, THERE IS A DEFINITE

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PAGE 01 LONDON 06288 02 OF 02 191147Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 06288

DISTINCTION BEING MADE BETWEEN THIS MARITIME ACTIVITY
AND THAT OF THE LAND STATION. THE POLES TOLD HEAP THAT
THEIR PRIME RESEARCH SHIP AND FOUR TRAWLERS WILL REMAIN
IN THE ANTARCTIC DOING MARITIME RESEARCH INDEFINITELY.

6. USSR CONSULTATIONS: HEAP SAID THAT THE SOVIETS PRO-
FESSED "GREAT LOVE" FOR THE ANTARCTIC TREATY. THEY WANT
IT TO SURVIVE AS THE SOLE LEGAL INSTRUMENT COVERING ALL
ACTIVITIES IN THE ANTARCTIC. THEY MADE IT CLEAR THAT
THEY CONSIDER MARINE LIVING RESOURCES TO BE MORE IMPORT-
ANT THAN THE MINERALS QUESTION. THEY ALSO MADE IT EX-
TREMELY CLEAR THAT ON BOTH ISSUES THEY DO NOT WISH THAT
ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN THAT WOULD BRING ANTARCTICA OR
THE ANTARCTIC TREATY TO PROMINENCE ON THE WORLD STAGE.
THEY ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED THAT MINERALS BE DEALT
WITH IN AS LOW-KEY FASHION AS POSSIBLE AT THE NINTH CON-
SULTATIVE. WITH THIS IN MIND THEY ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE
GROUP OF EXPERTS MEETING AND HOPE THAT IT CAN BE CARE-
FULLY STAGE-MANAGED SO AS TO AVOID ANY PUBLICITY.

7. MARINE LIVING RESOURCES: HEAP SAID THAT HE HAD
UNDERSTOOD FROM KOTLIAR THAT USSR WOULD CONTEMPLATE A
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PAGE 02 LONDON 06288 02 OF 02 191147Z

CONVENTION DEALING WITH THIS SUBJECT. IT WAS EVIDENT, HOWEVER, FROM HIS DISCUSSIONS THAT OFFICIALS IN MOSCOW ARE "LESS ENAMORED" WITH THIS IDEA THAN HE THOUGHT THEY WERE.

8. ONE OF KEY OFFICIALS HEAP DEALT WITH WAS ROMANOFF. WHO HE DESCRIBED AS THE "NUMBER TWO MAN ON LOS" AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. KOTLIAR, THE SOVIET ANTARCTIC REP IN LONDON, WORKED AS ROMANOFF'S DEPUTY FOR FOUR YEARS. HEAP WONDERS WHETHER OR NOT THIS CONNECTION MIGHT BE EXPLOITED. HE SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS ONE MIGHT BE ABLE TO WORK ON THE VARIOUS ANTARCTIC ISSUES BEHIND THE SCENES AT UNLOS IN NEW YORK. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS IDEA WAS HIS ALONE AT THE MOMENT. HEAP WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMAL USG REACTION TO THIS IDEA.

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